(*c*) The assessment of 8 annas per site now levied in some places may be either altogether abolished or its levy limited to sites, the extent of which exceeds one hundred square yards.

(*d*) Hittals and manure pits may be exempted from the payment of assessment and the excavation of deep pits for the deposit of manure prohibited.

(*e*) Vacant sites used as Hullukoppals (places for storage of straw) should not be assessed even though they may not form part of the premises occupied by the raiyats concerned.

(*f*) Vacant sites owned by agriculturists may be exempted from the payment of assessment.

Reply of Government.—(*a*) to (*f*). There is much diversity of practice and in some places real cause for grievance. All the District Officers have been consulted. Draft Rules bearing on the subject are under consideration.

Subject No. 94
(a) Patels and Shanbhogs.
(b) Patels and Shanbhogs to be required to qualify themselves for their posts.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Patels should not be illiterate.

(*b*) Illiterate patels and shanbhogs may be required to qualify themselves within a certain time, and in case of failure to do so, to vacate their posts.

(*c*) Patels should possess lands assessed at a fair proportion of the Potgi. Educational qualification may be insisted upon in the case of future nominations.

Reply of Government.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) The office being hereditary, illiterate patels cannot be removed summarily. Every encouragement is given for the spread of education in villages and patels and shanbhogs are being gradually educated. New men are not ordinarily appointed unless they can read and write. Possession of land is insisted upon but it is difficult to lay down a limit.

Subject No. 95
Shekdars.

Summary of discussion.—The duties of shekdars should be clearly defined and they should be required to pass an examination in surveying, plotting and classifying, and their minimum pay should be raised to Rs. 20. They may also be given a horse allowance.

Reply of Government.—A committee is now investigating these and other questions relating to the shekdari service. Early improvement may be expected.

Subject No. 96
Remuneration of Patels and Shanbhogs.

Summary of discussion.—(*a*) Early orders *in re* the revision of Potgi allowances are solicited. The present remuneration was fixed several years ago, and there has since been a large increase of revenue entailing additional work on these officials.

Reply of Government.—The revision of remuneration settled more than ten years ago is in progress.

Summary of discussion.—(*b*) Shanbhogs and patels may be allowed a Potgi of five and four per cent, respectively, as in Bombay instead of four and three per cent as at present.

Reply of Government.—The rates cannot be raised.

Subject No. 97
Amildars' enquiries into Revenue matters to be formal.

Summary of discussion.—In connection with applications regarding land, grant of copies, and water-supply, no dates for formal enquiries are fixed by Amildars nor are enquiries made accordingly. As in Criminal and Civil Courts, dates should be fixed and enquiry formally held.

Reply of Government.—The present practice leads to no practical inconvenience and cannot be disturbed. Cases of delay may be brought to the notice of Deputy Commissioners.

Subject No. 98
Kulwar chits from growers of arecanut.

Summary of discussion.—Owing to the peculiar conditions of the Malnad and to the great distances between houses therein, Kulwar chits from the growers of supari may be accepted in lieu of such chits from patels, who are not easily found. Moreover patels act upon information furnished by the raiyats themselves.

Reply of Government.—The present rule is based on good grounds and cannot be altered.

Subject No. 99
Koleroga of arecanut trees.

Summary of discussion.—This disease not only requires early investigation and remedy, but some special concession is also called for in favor of persons whose supari crop has materially suffered from it. Some machinery which can take the place of coolies who are not easily had is likewise desirable.

Reply of Government.—Noted.

Subject No. 100
Wet Remission.

Summary of discussion.—The rainfall has been scanty during the last one or two years. Remissions may be allowed not only in the case of lands which either lay waste or yielded no crop during those years, but also in that of lands which may remain uncultivated this year for failure of timely rains.

Some of the members said that they would pay 50 per cent extra assessment for the second crop, if remissions are granted as in British Territory. Several others joined and pressed for remissions. Mr. Nanjunda Rao asked as an alternative that the wet assessment be revised and reduced with reference to the present water value.

Reply of Government.—A general scheme of annual remissions is opposed to the principle of our survey settlement and cannot be sanctioned. Special cases of hardship due to drought are shown some consideration. Nothing more can be done.

Subject No. 101
Use of tank water for lands classed as Bagayet.

Summary of discussion.—Bagayet lands assessed at higher rates than wet lands may be allowed the free use of water from the tanks under which they are situated, when-